

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Serial No.: 10/652,207
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC Ref: Q77255

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A battery connecting plate, comprising:

a plate body, disposed on a plurality of arrayed batteries;

a first terminal, provided with a first portion which is connected to one of the batteries,

and a second portion which is connected to an electronic element;~~and~~

a cover member, attached onto the plate body in a first direction, to provisionally fix the first terminal on the plate body, and

a conductive bus bar, comprising:

a third portion, connected to a first one of the batteries;

a fourth portion, connected to a second one of the batteries; and

a fulcrum portion, situated between the third portion and the fourth portion,

wherein:

~~wherein~~ the first terminal is provided with a tolerance compensator, which connects the first portion and the second portion while compensating a positional difference between the second portion and a predetermined position of the second portion in the first direction

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the plate body is formed with a protrusion which supports the fulcrum portion such that the bus bar is allowed to move in a see-saw manner before the bus bar is fixed on the plate body,

and

the first portion is held in contact with one of the third portion and the fourth portion after the bus bar is fixed on the plate body.

Claim 2 (original): The battery connecting plate as set forth in claim 1, wherein the first terminal comprises a terminal body and a flexible leg portion extended from the terminal body to serve as the tolerance compensator.

Claim 3 (original): The battery connecting plate as set forth in claim 2, wherein the terminal body is provided with the first portion, and the flexible leg portion is provided with the second portion.

Claim 4 (original): The battery connecting plate as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a second terminal, to which the first terminal is electrically connected via the electronic element.

Claim 5 (original): The battery connecting plate as set forth in claim 2, wherein the cover member comprises:

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a first cover, which is disposed on the plate body to provide a predetermined position relative to the plate body at which the second portion of the first terminal is placed; and

a second cover, which is attached onto the first cover in the first direction to provisionally fix the flexible leg portion between the first cover and the second cover.

Claim 6 (original): The battery connecting plate as set forth in claim 1, wherein the plate body is formed with a first stopper, which restricts a movement of the cover member in the first direction.

Claim 7 (original): The battery connecting plate as set forth in claim 1, wherein the plate body is formed with a second stopper, which restricts a movement of the cover member in a second direction opposite to the first direction.

Claim 8 (original): The battery connecting plate as set forth in claim 4, wherein the first terminal, the second terminal and the electronic element are electrically connected by soldering.

Claim 9 (original): The battery connecting plate as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a fixation member, which fixes the first portion of the first terminal to the one of the batteries to thereby plenary fix the first terminal on the plate body.

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Claim 10 (original): The battery connecting plate as set forth in claim 1, wherein the electronic element is an overcurrent protection resistor provided in accordance with a maximum output voltage of the one of the batteries.

Claim 11: Cancelled.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The battery connecting plate as set forth in claim ~~11~~1, wherein the fulcrum portion of the bus bar and the protrusion of the plate body are configured such that the first portion of the bus bar is separated from the plate body when the second portion of the bus bar is brought into contact with the plate body.